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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1920 L STREET, N.W. · WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 · 202/293-4196

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 4, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 27 totaled an estimated 17.8 billion ton-miles, 8.8 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 9 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 141.2 billion ton-miles, 11.5 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended February 27 totaled 412,144 cars, 10.9 percent below 1981, but 6.3 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 14.1 percent in the East, 12.2 percent in the South, and 7.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 20 of the 21 commodity groups were down. Nineteen of the 21 groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended February 20 totaled 34,806 cars, up 9.0 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 61,711 trailers and/or containers, 6.4 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first eight weeks of the year was 259,887 cars, 7.5 percent higher than last year, and 465,015 trailers and/or containers, up 6.4 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 2/27/82:

	Loadings in Week ended February 27, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	29,663	D	67	0.2	I	1,642	5.9
Other farm products	5,379	I	732	15.8	I	773	16.8
Metallic ores	21,656	D	4,356	16.7	I	1,794	9.0
Coal	125,174	D	5,264	4.0	I	5,556	4.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	8,803	D	2,409	21.5	I	604	7.4
Nonmetallic minerals	9,520	D	3,908	29.1	D	1,930	16.9
Grain mill products	14,138	D	2,154	13.2	I	610	4.5
Food and kindred products	15,277	D	1,601	9.5	I	911	6.3
Primary forest products	18,039	D	2,051	10.2	I	1,549	9.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,391	D	3,118	32.8	I	891	16.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	18,240	D	3,136	14.7	I	835	4.8
Chemicals and allied products	25,776	D	3,434	11.8	I	2,282	9.7
Petroleum products	4,905	D	515	9.5	D	214	4.2
Stone, clay and glass products	10,273	D	4,120	28.6	I	605	6.3
Coke	5,489	D	1,018	15.6	I	477	9.5
Metals and products	13,252	D	5,365	28.8	I	2,706	25.7
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,696	D	3,178	17.8	I	463	3.3
Waste and scrap materials	9,762	D	3,221	24.8	I	498	5.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,327	D	717	6.5	I	1,145	12.5
All other carloads	45,175	D	1,491	3.2	I	3,223	7.7
LCL traffic	208	D	92	30.7	I	30	16.9
Total Cars Loaded	412,144	D	50,483	10.9	I	24,450	6.3
Corresponding week of 1981	462,627						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (9 weeks)	3,291,823	3,798,389	D 13.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
8 Weeks cumulative	123.4	104.0	D 11.9
Week ended February 27	17.8	19.5	D 8.8
9 Weeks cumulative	141.2	159.5	D 11.5

AARt-030482